

*In the Claims*

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1       1. [Currently amended] A method for operating a Telnet  
2       client to establish a network connection with a server,  
3       comprising the steps of:

4               negotiating environment parameters for establishing a  
5               connection-oriented connection with said server;

6               said parameters including a request for said server to  
7               provide a confirmation record containing descriptive  
8               information about a connection which is held for the  
9               duration of a file transfer or dialog, said  
10               confirmation record selected from a set consisting of a  
11               success response record and an error response record,  
12               both said response records including diagnostic  
13               information describing connection status including a  
14               response code and a device name requested by said  
15               client; and

16               responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation

17 record.

1 2. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said  
2 request being ~~an implicit implied from a specific request to~~  
3 connect a virtual printer device.

1 3. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said  
2 request being ~~an explicit a specific request for a~~  
3 confirmation record in connection with a request to connect  
4 a virtual display device.

1 4. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said  
2 confirmation record including a device name requested by  
3 said client and assigned by said server to said client  
4 connection.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 4, said confirmation  
2 record including a response code indicative of the cause of  
3 a failed connection.

1       6. [Original] The method of claim 5, responsive to said  
2 response code, retrying said negotiating step.

1       7. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, ~~said client~~  
2 ~~being a Telnet client, and said negotiating step including~~  
3 ~~negotiating new environment and terminal type confirmation~~  
4 record parameters.

1       8. [Currently amended] A method for operating a server in  
2 a network, comprising the steps of:

3            receiving a connection request from a client;

4            inviting said client to negotiate environment  
5            parameters;

6            responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said  
7            parameters;

8            assigning a virtual device name requested by said  
9           client to said client; and

10                   responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation  
11                   record, providing to said client a confirmation record  
12                   containing descriptive information about a connection  
13                   which is held for the duration of a file transfer or  
14                   dialog including consisting of, for a successful  
15                   connection, a success response code and diagnostic  
16                   information including said virtual device name and, for  
17                   an unsuccessful connection, [[a]] diagnostic  
18                   information including an error return code indicative  
19                   of the cause of failure of said connection.

1           9.       [Currently amended]   A system, comprising:

2                   a client;

3                   a server;

4                   a connection network for interconnecting said client  
5                   and server according to a connection oriented  
6                   client/server protocol in which a connection is  
7                   initiated and held for duration selectively of a file  
8                   transfer and a dialog; and

9           said server selectively operable at the application  
10           level responsive to a request for a confirmation record  
11           containing descriptive information about a connection  
12           which is held for the duration of a file transfer or  
13           dialog from said client during negotiations for a  
14           connection oriented connection for providing [[in]]  
15           said confirmation record to said client, said  
16           confirmation record selected from a set consisting of a  
17           success response record and an error response record,  
18           both said records having a return code and including,  
19           for a successful connection, a virtual device name  
20           requested by said client and assigned by said server to  
21           said client and, for an unsuccessful connection, [[a]]  
22           said return code being indicative of a cause of failure  
23           of said connection.

10. [Original] The system of claim 9, said server being a  
Telnet server and said client a Telnet client.

1       11. [Original] The system of claim 10, said connection  
2       oriented protocol being a Telnet protocol according to which  
3       new environment parameters including an express or implicit

4 request for said confirmation record may be negotiated.

1 12. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable  
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4 operating a client to establish a network connection with a  
5 server according to a connection oriented client/server  
6 protocol in which a connection is initiated and held for  
7 duration selectively of a file transfer and a dialog  
8 session, said method steps comprising:

9 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a  
10 connection-oriented connection with said server;

11 said parameters including a request for said server to  
12 provide a status record; and

13 responsive to said request, receiving said status  
14 record;

15     said status record consisting of one of an error  
16     response and a success response, each said response  
17     consisting of diagnostic information including device

18                   name requested by said client and a response code  
19                   selectively consisting of an error response code and a  
20                   success response code.

1       13. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable  
2       by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions  
3       executable by a machine to perform method steps for  
4       operating a server in a network according to a connection  
5       oriented client/server protocol in which a connection is  
6       initiated and held for duration selectively of a file  
7       transfer and a dialog session, said method steps comprising:  
8                    receiving a connection request from a client;  
9                    inviting said client to negotiate environment  
10                  parameters;  
11                  responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said  
12                  parameters;  
13                  assigning a virtual device name requested by said  
14                  client to said client; and

15           responsive to receiving a request for a status record,  
16           providing to said client a status record including  
17           consisting of diagnostic information including a return  
18           code including diagnostic information describing  
19           connection status and, for a successful connection,  
20           said virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful  
21           connection, [[a]] said return code indicative of the  
22           cause of failure of said connection.

1       14. [Currently amended] A computer program product ~~or~~  
2       ~~computer program element~~ for operating a client to establish  
3       a network connection with a server in a connection oriented  
4       client/server protocol in which a connection is initiated  
5       and held for duration selectively of a file transfer and a  
6       dialog session, according to method steps said computer  
7       program product comprising:

8           a computer readable medium;

9           first program instructions for negotiating environment  
10          parameters for establishing a connection-oriented  
11          connection with said server;

12           said parameters including a request for said server to  
13           provide a status record; and

14           second program instructions, responsive to said  
15           request, for receiving said status record;

16           said status record consisting of diagnostic information  
17           including device name requested by said client and  
18           connection status according to one of an error response  
19           code and a success response code; and wherein

20           said first and second program instructions are recorded  
21           on said computer readable medium.

1       15. [Currently amended] A computer program product—or  
2       computer program element for operating a server in a network  
3       according to a connection oriented client/server protocol in  
4       which a connection is initiated and held for duration  
5       selectively of a file transfer and a dialog session, said  
6       computer program product method steps comprising:

7           a computer readable medium;

8                   first program instructions for receiving a connection  
9                   request from a client;

10                   second program instructions for inviting said client to  
11                   negotiate environment parameters;

12                   third program instructions, responsive to client  
13                   acceptance, for negotiating said parameters;

14                   fourth program instructions for assigning a virtual  
15                   device name requested by said client to said client;  
16                   and

17                   fifth program instructions, responsive to receiving a  
18                   request for a status record, for providing to said  
19                   client a status record including consisting of a  
20                   response code and, for a successful connection, said  
21                   virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful  
22                   connection, [[a]] said return code indicative of the  
23                   cause of failure of said connection; and wherein

24                   said first, second, third, fourth, and fifth program  
25                   instructions are recorded on said computer readable  
26                   medium.